

WE CLAIM:

1 1. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member moveable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a moveable wand assembly associated with the housing and operatively
6 associated with the actuating member such that when the wand assembly is in a first
7 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 2. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in at least one
2 second position, the actuating member is moveable sufficiently to ignite the fuel.

1 3. The lighter of claim 2, wherein when the wand assembly is positioned
2 between the first and second positions, the actuating member is moveable sufficiently to
3 ignite the fuel.

1 4. The lighter of claim 2, wherein when the wand assembly is positioned
2 between the first and second positions, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to
3 prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 5. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuator member is substantially
2 immobilized when the wand assembly is in the first position.

1 6. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the wand assembly is pivotally coupled to the
2 housing.

1 7. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuating member is slidable.

1 8. The lighter of claim 7, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the actuating member is at least partially prevented from sliding.

1 9. The lighter of claim 1, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing and including a first portion for interacting with the wand
3 assembly and a second portion for interacting with the actuating member.

1 10. The lighter of claim 9, wherein the wand assembly includes a camming
2 surface and the cam follower first portion interacts with the camming surface.

1 11. The lighter of claim 9, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the cam follower second portion immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently to
3 prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 12. The lighter of claim 9, wherein when the wand assembly is in a second
2 position, the cam follower second portion allows the actuating member to move sufficiently
3 to ignite the fuel.

1 13. The lighter of claim 9, wherein movement of the wand assembly causes the
2 camming surface to move the cam follower.

1 14. The lighter of claim 10, wherein the camming surface defines a first detent
2 for engaging the cam follower first portion when the wand assembly is in the first position.

1 15. The lighter of claim 14, wherein the camming surface further defines a
2 second detent spaced from the first detent for providing resistance against movement of the
3 wand assembly, and the cam follower first portion engages the second detent when the
4 wand assembly is in the second position.

1 16. The lighter of claim 15, wherein the first position is a closed position and the
2 second position is an extended position, and the camming surface further defines at least
3 one additional detent between the first and second detents for engaging the cam follower

1 first portion when the wand assembly is in at least one intermediate position between the
2 first and second positions.

17. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuator member is a trigger.

1 18. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuating member is part of an actuating
2 assembly.

1 19. The lighter of claim 10, wherein the cam follower is biased toward the
2 camming surface.

1 20. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent release of the fuel.

1 21. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent creation of a spark.

1 22. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member operable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a wand assembly pivotally coupled to the housing, wherein the wand
6 assembly has a high-wand-force position and a low-wand-force position.

1 23. The lighter of claim 22, wherein a pivoting force applied to a point on the
2 wand assembly and sufficient to pivot the wand assembly is greater in the high-wand-force
3 position than in the low-wand-force position.

1 24. The lighter of claim 22, further including a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing and including a first engaging portion, wherein the wand

1 assembly includes a second engaging portion, and in the high-wand-force position the first
2 and second engaging portions contact.

1 25. The lighter of claim 24, wherein in the low-wand-force position, the first and
2 second engaging portions are out of contact.

1 26. The lighter of claim 24, wherein the first engaging portion is an outward
2 protrusion and the second engaging portion is an indentation .

1 27. The lighter of claim 24, wherein the first engaging portion is an indentation
2 and the second engaging portion is an outward protrusion.

1 28. The lighter of claim 22, wherein the wand assembly is pivotable between a
2 closed position and an extended position, and the high-wand-force and low-wand-force
3 positions are located between the closed position and the extended position.

1 29. The lighter of claim 22, wherein the wand assembly is slidable between a
2 closed position and an extended position, and the high-wand-force and low-wand-force
3 positions are located between the closed position and the extended position.

1 30. The lighter of claim 22, wherein in the high-wand-force position the wand
2 assembly is in an extended position, and in the low-wand-force position the wand assembly
3 is in a closed position.

1 31. The lighter of claim 22, wherein in the high-wand-force position the wand
2 assembly is in a closed position, and in the low-wand-force position the wand assembly is in
3 an extended position.

1 32. The lighter of claim 22, wherein when the wand assembly is in a first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent release of the fuel.

1 33. The lighter of claim 22, wherein when the wand assembly is in a first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent creation of a spark.

1 34. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member operable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a wand assembly movable between a closed position and an extended
6 position, wherein the wand assembly is releasably positionable in at least one intermediate
7 position between the closed position and the extended position.

1 35. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the wand assembly is releasably
2 positionable in the extended position.

1 36. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the wand assembly is releasably
2 positionable in the closed position.

1 37. The lighter of claim 34, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing, wherein the cam follower releasably positions the wand
3 assembly in the at least one intermediate position.

1 38. The lighter of claim 37, wherein the actuating member is moveable to
2 selectively ignite the fuel, and when the wand assembly is in the closed position, the cam
3 follower immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 39. The lighter of claim 38, wherein when the wand assembly is in the extended
2 position, the cam follower allows the actuating member to move sufficiently to ignite the
3 fuel.

1 40. The lighter of claim 39, wherein when the wand assembly is in the at least
2 one intermediate position, the cam follower immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently
3 to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 41. The lighter of claim 39, wherein when the wand assembly is in the at least
2 one intermediate position, the cam follower allows the actuating member to move
3 sufficiently to ignite the fuel.

1 42. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the housing defines a longitudinal axis, and
2 the wand assembly pivots about a transversely extending pivot axis that is substantially
3 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

1 43. The lighter of claim 42, wherein the housing defines a first side and a second
2 side, and at least a portion of the wand assembly is located between the first side and the
3 second side.

1 44. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member for selectively igniting the fuel, the actuating member
4 associated with the housing; and
5 a wand assembly including a hub rotatably connected to the housing and a wand
6 connected to the hub, the hub including an undulating outer surface,
7 wherein the wand pivots about a transversely extending pivoting axis that is
8 substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

1 45. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member moveable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a wand associated with the housing and moveable between a first position
6 and a second position,

1 wherein when the wand assembly is in the first position the actuating
2 member requires a first actuating force, when the wand assembly is in the second position
3 the actuating member requires a second actuating force, and the first actuating force is
4 greater than the second actuating force.

1 46. The lighter of claim 45, wherein the wand assembly is pivotable between the
2 first position and the second position.

1 47. The lighter of claim 45, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing and including a first portion for interacting with the wand
3 assembly and a second portion for interacting with the actuating member.

1 48. The lighter of claim 47, wherein the actuating member includes a first
2 surface and the cam follower second portion includes a second surface, and the first and
3 second surfaces are capable of engagement.

1 49. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are capable of
2 releasable engagement.

1 50. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are
2 substantially vertical.

51. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are angled.

1 52. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an ignition assembly for igniting the fuel;
4 a wand assembly associated with the housing;
5 a nozzle for releasing fuel;
6 an actuating member operable to selectively actuate the ignition assembly;
7 and

1 a conduit extending through the wand assembly and including:
2 a tube defining a channel for conveying the fuel from the
3 supply to the nozzle, and
4 a coiled wire received in the channel and electrically
5 connected to the ignition assembly and the nozzle.

1 53. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the wand assembly further includes a metal
2 wand and the lighter further comprises an insulated wire electrically connecting the ignition
3 assembly to the metal wand.

1 54. The lighter of claim 53, wherein the insulated wire is at least partially coiled
2 around the tube.

1 55. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the actuator member is operable to
2 selectively release fuel from the nozzle.

1 56. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the ignition assembly includes a
2 piezoelectric element.

57. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the ignition assembly includes a battery.

1 58. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an ignition assembly for igniting the fuel;
4 a wand assembly pivotally associated with the housing and having a nozzle;
5 an actuating member operable to selectively release fuel from the nozzle and
6 actuate the ignition assembly; and
7 at least one member fluidly connecting the supply to the nozzle and
8 electrically connected to the ignition assembly and the nozzle,

1 wherein the wand assembly pivots about a pivot axis, and the at least
2 member is spaced from the pivot axis and extends at least partially through the wand
3 assembly.

1 59. The lighter of claim 58, wherein the wand assembly defines an aperture
2 spaced from the pivot axis, and at least one member passes through the aperture.

60. The lighter of claim 59, wherein the aperture is an arcuate slot.

1 61. The lighter of claim 59, wherein the wand assembly includes a hub, and the
2 aperture is defined in the hub.

1 62. The lighter of claim 61, wherein the hub rotates about an axle, and the
2 aperture is spaced from the axle.

1 63. The lighter of claim 58, further comprising:
2 a first electrode operatively supported by the housing;
3 a conductive member spaced from the first electrode and operatively supported by
4 the housing;
5 a wire electrically connecting the first electrode to the conductive member;
6 a second electrode formed as portion of the ignition assembly; and
7 an electrical conductor operatively associated with the actuating member such that
8 movement of the actuating member moves the electrical conductor, and the electrical
9 conductor is in electrical communication with the conductive member.

1 64. The lighter of claim 63, wherein the electrical conductor is slidable along the
2 conductive member.

1 65. The lighter of claim 63, further including a wand assembly movably
2 connected to the housing, the wand assembly includes the first electrode at a free end.